

# The Morning Astorian.

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## TOWN HEMMED IN BY BIG SNOWS

Lewistown, Mont., Cut Off From Outside Communication, Excepting By Wire, for the Past Three Weeks.

Three Trains Are Buried Somewhere Between There and Lombard.

## STAGE GETS THROUGH DRIFTS

Snowplows Work Daily, But Are Able to Accomplish Little as Snow Continues to Fall—No Fears for Trains.

Butte, Mont., March 4.—A Lewistown, Mont., dispatch says: "Lewistown has been cut off from communication except by telegraph with the outside world for three weeks. Three trains are buried in the snow between here and Lombard, nobody knows just where, although repeated efforts have been made to reach them with snowplows. The stage still runs, despite great difficulties.

The railway is known as the "Jawbone." Of the three trains stalled one is a freight and two mixed. The mixed trains carry a passenger coach, but it is probable that not more than 20 people are on them. The crew of the freight managed to reach Harlow town and procured provisions. It is not known just where the mixed trains are, but there is no apprehension as to their safety, as they can procure provisions and fuel from ranchers, with the inconvenience of improvised sleeping accommodations in the day coaches. The snow plows work night and day, but snow falls almost daily and it is probable communication will not be opened until a thaw sets in.

## CAPTURES PICKPOCKET.

Light Fingered Gent Tries Tactics on Wrong Man.

Los Angeles, March 4.—W. H. Galbraith, a wealthy glass manufacturer, of Pittsburg, who has spent the winter here with his family, captured a professional pickpocket today after he had been robbed of a purse containing more than \$400.

Galbraith was at the depot of the Santa Monica electric line and was lifting his little daughter on a car when he felt a man's hand in his pocket.

He turned in time to see a young man abstract his purse and at once tried to seize him. The thief eluded his grasp and started to run, dropping the purse in his flight. Galbraith pursued him, yelling to those ahead to stop the thief. Just as he grasped the pickpocket by the collar the thief ran into the outstretched arms of an officer in citizen's clothes. Thinking to get away the thief asked the officer to protect him from Galbraith, who, he said, was about to assault him, but when the Pittsburg man explained the matter the officer handcuffed the thief and took him to jail. The prisoner gave the name of William Adams. He was recognized as a professional pickpocket, for whom the police have been searching for weeks and who will be charged with other robberies. He refuses to make any statement or tell where he roomed. He was seen at the depot, accompanied by a well dressed woman, but during the excitement the woman disappeared.

## THREE LOSE THEIR LIVES.

Oklahoma City, March 4.—Three persons perished in Wednesday night's prairie fire, and the financial loss is estimated at \$500,000.

Further reports of property loss by both fire and wind indicate the first estimate was too low. The damage by wind extends over seven counties in the southwest.

Scores of persons are suffering from burns and broken limbs. The area from which the reports of damage by wind come covers 100 miles square and the means of communication over the district are meagre.

## Witness Confesses Crime.

Butte, Mont., March 4.—During the progress yesterday of the trial of Martin Blatnich for the murder of an Austrian named Joseph Stukal, something almost unprecedented in a criminal trial was the admission of Mike Mullich while in the witness chair, that he had inflicted the wound that resulted in Stukal's death.

His statement, if correct, entirely relieves Blatnich of responsibility for Stukal's death. During his testimony, Mullich stated that Stukal had attacked him, and that he had stabbed him in self-defense, believing that Stukal would inflict great punishment upon him.

## Easy for Charles Neary.

Milwaukee, March 4.—Charles Neary tonight received a well earned decision over Louis Long, of Oakland, in a six-round bout before the Badger Athletic Club. Neary had the better of the mill throughout, knocking Long down 11 times. Long recently defeated H. L. Herrera, the Mexican pugilist, in three rounds at Butte, gaining much notoriety. The Mexican claimed it to be a fluke.

## REPORTED THAT TWO VESSELS ENGAGE IN BATTLE AND BOTH GO DOWN

Two Hundred Japanese Are Saved By Chinese Junks, While All the Russians Are Lost.

Daily Chronicle Publishes Report But Does So Guardedly—Russian Battleship Retvizan Lies in Such Position as to Block Harbor for Exit of Anything But Light Cruisers—Japs Busy Landing Forces in Corea and Navy Is Inactive.

London, March 4.—On the strength of a statement made by a missionary, the Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Chronicle sends in a doubtful report that 28 Japanese sailors have landed at Tengchow, west of Chefoo, saying that their vessel had sunk as the result of an engagement with Russian warships, which also went down. No Russians were saved, but 200 Japanese were rescued by Chinese junks. This action is reported to have occurred between Port Arthur and the Niao islands.

London, March 4.—Little change in the far eastern situation is reported this morning. It is apparent that the Japanese are busily engaged in transporting their forces into Corea, this work being facilitated by the enforced inactivity of the navy.

According to the Sebastopol correspondent of the Daily Graphic, Admiral Skrydloff has learned privately from Port Arthur that the Russian battleship Retvizan lies in such a position as to block effectually the exit of battleships from the harbor, passage being practicable only for cruisers.

## LEGISLATORS FAVOR ALLIANCE.

Men of Affairs in France Would Like to Have Treaty With Russia.

Paris, March 4.—The La Presse has tabulated the responses that it has received to the query addressed to members of the chamber of deputies, which show that 272 out of 335 of the members favor a treaty alliance with Russia. Only 11 of the 62 members who were not in favor of that instrument expressed hostility to it.

Replies received from senators to the same question show that equally as large a majority in the senate support the alliance.

## OF USE TO JAPAN.

Allows Russia to Deliver Contraband Goods for Reasons.

Tokio, March 4.—It is evident that several vessels laden with coal, provisions and other contraband articles have recently effected the passage of the Tsugaru strait and succeeded in reaching Vladivostok. The exact number and names are not known. Two of them are said to have carried cargo and Australian coal. Japan has refrained from making a special effort to prevent their passage, and it is not impossible that the government has calmly permitted the delivery of contraband goods, calculating that they would prove useful to herself at a later stage of the campaign.

## Has Ample Coal Supply.

London, March 4.—A Japanese officer who has charge of Japan's financial and commercial interests in England declares that his government foresaw the possibility of coal being declared a contraband of war and has been collecting large stores of Welsh steam coal for years. Today it has a supply sufficient for the use of the navy for years to come.

## Consents to Vessel's Detention.

Washington, March 4.—Consul-General Goodnow, at Shanghai, has cabled the state department that the Russian consul-general, Sngchal, has advised Taotal that Russia will consent to the dismantlement of the Mandjur and her detention at Shanghai until the end of the war.

## DECISION REVERSES DECREE.

Railroad Company May Now Proceed With Its Suit.

San Francisco, March 4.—The United States circuit court of appeals to-

day reversed the decree of the United States circuit court for the district of western Washington, western division, and directed the lower court to dismiss the bill in the case of the Black Hills & Northwestern Railway Company, the Mason County Logging Company, Thomas Bordeaux, H. Anderson and Joseph Bordeaux, versus the Tacoma Mill Company.

The plaintiffs in error had petitioned the superior court of Washington for a condemnation of the right of way across certain lands belonging to the Tacoma Mill Company for a line of railroad in Thurston county on its way to the terminus on the Pacific ocean. The defendants had refused to sell or convey the right of way. The lower court entered an interlocutory decree restraining the railroad company from proceeding with the condemnation suit.

Under the judgment of the court of appeals, condemnation proceedings may be prosecuted in the state courts.

## INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

House Considers Measure—Syms, of Tennessee, Retains Seat.

Washington, March 4.—The house today had under consideration the Indian appropriation bill, the reading of which for the purpose of amendment was pending on adjournment. During the general debate on the bill, Martin, republican, of South Dakota, addressed the house on his resolution directing the secretary of commerce and labor to investigate the causes of differences which exist between the cost of live and dressed beef.

Stanley, democrat, of Kentucky, made an urgent appeal for relief at the hands of congress for tobacco growers and tollers in the tobacco fields and complained that competition had been destroyed by combinations of capital.

The controverted features in the Indian bill went over until tomorrow.

The house confirmed the right of Syms, democrat, of Tennessee, to his seat. A republican had contested it.

## SHREWD CRANK, SAY OFFICERS.

Joseph H. Stark Says He Is Not Crazy and Will Fight for Liberty.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 4.—Joseph H. Stark, who was arrested yesterday afternoon on a charge of insanity, and also accused of threatening to blow up the Huntington shops and to kill H. E. Huntington, his son, and all the employes of the company with dynamite, purposes strenuously to contest the effort to have him committed to an asylum.

Stark has interested certain fraternal organizations in his case, engaged counsel, and says he will fight for his liberty. He charges that, owing to the fact that he was injured in a street railway accident, the company desires to prevent him from prosecuting a damage suit in the courts, and to that end the detectives of the company have had him arrested as an insane person.

By the authorities who have him in charge, Stark is considered a shrewd crank, with only one dangerous hobby—that for the use of explosives, of which he has made a study. Otherwise he is considered sane, and, being a well read man of more than ordinary ability, his presentation of his defense promises to be able.

That he made threats against Mr. Huntington and his son there is no reason to doubt. He told several attorneys what he purposed to do, they having refused to institute a damage suit for him. He was closely watched by detectives day and night, and on one occasion tried to reach Mr. Huntington in his hotel, but an officer frustrated the attempt. It is also known

that Stark priced explosives and for days spent many hours in the vicinity of the railroad offices.

## Site for Naval Station.

Washington, March 4.—Almost the entire time of the senate today was given to the consideration of the question of the selection of a site for a naval training station on the great lakes.

The controversy arose over the appointment of a new commission to select a site. The committee amendment was so amended as to apply to all the great lakes and not alone Lake Michigan, but the Quarles amendment, calling for a new commission to select a site has not been acted upon.

## Worry Causes Suicide.

Sioux City, March 4.—Frank L. Larue, president of the Corning Savings bank, which is in the hands of a receiver, killed himself this afternoon. The bank affairs are badly tangled. Strain and worry had affected Larue physically and mentally.

## First Whaler Sails.

San Francisco, March 4.—The steam whaler Belvedere has sailed for the Arctic. She is in command of Captain Tilton and is the first of the fleet to leave.

## LOVE HATH A WAY.

Young Woman Comes to Spokane to Marry Man of Choice.

Spokane, Wash., March 4.—Miss Dottie Markham, of Omaha, Neb., is on her way to Spokane to wed the young man of her choice. There is an interesting and somewhat romantic story connected with the affair. Five years ago Miss Markham and Leonard Hall were attendants at the high school in this city and while there a feeling of affection grew up between them which appears now to be likely to be consummated in their marriage.

Mrs. Holshelter, Miss Markham's mother, opposed the match from the beginning. When young Hall left Omaha for the west some months ago, her consent was asked, but she refused and perhaps thought the match was ended, but the young couple have kept up correspondence. Mrs. Holshelter continued to refuse her consent to the match and the young people decided to wait till Miss Markham's 18th birthday, when she would be free to marry whoever she chose. Shortly after her birthday the young woman announced her intention of leaving for Spokane and started for this city Tuesday.

Young Hall's mother was at first opposed to the marriage on account of the youth of the lovers, but finally became interested in the match and is now giving her aid to the young people.

## ENGLAND DOES NOT ALARM RUSSIA

Government Convinced That Japan's Great Treaty Ally Will Not Interfere in War Now in Progress.

Action Would Only Be Taken in Event of Third Power Mixing in With the Affair.

## AMBASSADOR IS REASSURED

Goes to St. Petersburg to Explain That Former Fears Entertained by Him Are Ill Founded.

St. Petersburg, March 4.—There exists high authority for the statement that Russia has reason to feel more tranquil regarding the attitude of Great Britain. The real reason of the visit to St. Petersburg of Count Benckendorff, Russian ambassador to Great Britain, while ostensibly to see his son off to the far east, was personally to assure his government that his suspicions concerning Japan's ally was ill founded and that Great Britain, although standing by the obligations of the Anglo-Japanese treaty, would not move unless compelled to do so by the entrance into affairs in the far east of a third power.

## Chairman Issues Call.

Seattle, March 4.—Ellis Morrison, chairman of the republican state committee, today issued an official call for a republican state convention. The call, which bases the apportionment on the official vote, makes a few changes in the apportionment.

## Insurrection Explodes.

Salonica, Macedonia, March 4.—The Albanian insurrectionary movement at Ipek is ended. The government has promised the Albanian exemption from cattle taxes. Several skirmishes have occurred near Amatova.

## Fairbanks Will Accept.

Washington, March 4.—The Star tonight says: Senator Fairbanks will not resist the movement to make him the vice-presidential nominee of the republican party. If the convention nominates him, he will accept. More than that, he will not attempt to discourage efforts looking to the nomination.

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P. S.—We intend to maintain the high standard already established by this house for Fine Millinery, and have engaged the services of Madame Dillard, of New York, who will have charge of this department.

## Carter's Inks, etc.

The show window tells the tale. Come and see. Then its up to you.

J. N. GRIFFIN